

# ORAL HYGIENE

Vol. 5,  
No. 8.

AUGUST  
1915.

PROPERTY OF  
DENTAL LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
DON'T MUTILATE OR  
REMOVE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY  
THE BRIGGS-KESSLER COMPANY  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

# Sensationalism in Dentistry

**I**S short lived but the constant repetition of exceptional service establishes an enviable reputation.

For eight years the **DENTINOL AND PYORRHOCIDE METHOD** of pyorrhea treatment has grown in popularity with the profession and is now more extensively used than all other treatments combined.

This method is substantiated by extensive research work and the clinical experience of the professional staff gained through years devoted exclusively to the study of pyorrhea treatment and prevention at The Pyorrhocide Clinic.

**PYORRHOCIDE** for patients use is a proved genuine prophylactic, retards tartar formation, inhibits the growth of pus forming bacteria and stimulates the oral tissues to a greater power of resistance.

Prescribe it for your patients and watch results.



**The Dentinol & Pyorrhocide Co.**  
110-112 West 40th St., New York City

# ORAL HYGIENE

## A JOURNAL FOR DENTISTS

VOLUME V.

NUMBER VII.

AUGUST 1915

### DENTAL HYGIENE WEEK IN NEW YORK CITY

The editor is indebted to Dr. Albert H. Stevenson for many notes and clippings and to the Brooklyn Daily Eagle for photos used in this article.

DENTAL HYGIENE week in New York City proved a wonderful success. It will be repeated in 1916. More than 1,000,000 people were made to realize the importance of cleaner, better teeth, while 800,000 school children benefited directly.

A snappy, vigorous campaign, in which the newspapers played an important part with editorials, news stories and cartoons was waged from May 24 to May 29. The public schools, dental societies and health bureaus coöperated in every possible way. The results were so pleasing that other cities are planning to follow suit.

The week culminated with tooth brush drills in the city parks. Forty classes of school children, selected from all the schools in the five boroughs, competed for prizes. The exercises were watched

by more than 5,000 persons, including parents, pupils and teachers from other cities.

A remarkable feature of the day's competition was the marked superiority of the classes of girls engaged in the drills. Seven classes of boys were unable to classify for a place among the leaders.

In spite of the nature of the drill, it was remarkably graceful, and the fact that the children of the various schools entered in the contest, wore distinctive costumes added to the attractiveness of the exhibitions. In most cases the boys wore white waists and ties of uniform color, either red, white, blue or black. The girls dressed in white, wore sashes and hair ribbons of uniform color. The most attractive of the costume were those worn by the class representing school 33, in the Bronx. The girls were dressed in the uniform of Red Cross field



A class of boys striving for the Trophy

nurses and the boys wore white waists with Red Cross armlets. This class incidentally, won the competition in Van Courtlandt park with ease, being practically perfect in the complicated drill.

The pupils stood in straight lines of from twenty to thirty-five, and the drill, directed by three of their number, selected for their proficiency, was in short as follows:

Attention! Ready! Dip! Outside surfaces, inside surfaces, chewing surfaces, Empty cups! Rinse mouth! Rinse brush!

The precision with which some of the classes accomplished these orders led to applause at all the drill grounds. It would have been impossible for any of those competing to be more serious than they were about the work, and the cohorts of each of the classes enthusiastically applauded and cheered every effort of their favorites.

Trophies awarded to the most proficient classes in the tooth brush drill were donated by the dental societies of greater New York, and took the form of handsome banners made of red silk. The words, "Clean Mouths—Good Health," were inscribed in white silk letters with a small red cross on a white field in the center.

In all of the parks motion picture operators and photographers from health publications took pictures of the children at drill, and the reproductions, educational authorities believe, will greatly aid the repetition of the campaign in schools throughout the country.

Thousands of communications were received by the department of health regarding the arrangements made for the campaign in New York, and inquiries regarding the success of the movement. These letters, all written by



educational officials, in most cases indicated that the work was to be practically duplicated by them as soon as arrangements could be made for it in their cities and towns. "I would not be surprised to hear that hundreds of cities follow the lead of New York in this campaign for the health of school children," one worker remarked.

During Dental Hygiene Week in New York City, 200 lecturers explained every detail of the care of the teeth and the process of their growth to all grades of public school pupils. The lectures were devised so they would appeal to the minds of the children of various ages, and were supplemented by motion pictures, lantern slides and plaster moulds.

Parents' associations congregated during the week and heard lectures prepared for them, and printed matter ex-

plaining everything described by the lectures was distributed in all the schools.

An example of the tactics used to make the lectures appeal to the many grades and classes may be found in the fact that classes of girls were told the necessity of health for social advancement, public appearance and recitation work, while boys were impressed with the need for sound teeth and consequent good health for superiority in the field of sports. No opportunity was lost in driving home the value of sound teeth and clean mouths, and no expense spared in the effort to show how they could be attained and preserved.

One of the many results of the week's work was the supplying of hundreds of tooth brushes and dentifrices to pupils of schools in the poorer sections of the city. Leading manufacturers of both articles



One teacher's conception of the Drill  
Note the boy scouts who patrol the field during the exercises



A critical moment under the Judge's eye

combined in aiding the work without solicitation, and hundreds of dollars worth of supplies were sent to the schools by them early in the week. It was noted that the children of the poorer sections showed especial interest in the lectures and drills and were among those rewarded or receiving honorable mention in the competition.

In preparation for the tooth brush drills in the parks, tooth brush day was observed in the schools. The day's lesson in hygiene was devoted to the tooth brush, an inspection of each pupil's teeth by the teacher, with stimulating comments on their care, and finally to the execution by each pupil of the tooth brush drill.

In one of the Brooklyn schools, the principal encouraged competitions on oral hygiene after the dental lecturer

had talked to the children. Many interesting compositions were written by very small children. This composition indicates how well the kiddies were impressed:

#### THE TEETH

Every morning I brush my teeth. If I do not keep them clean they will ache. Before I go to bed I brush them again.

WALTER BUCKINGHAM,  
Six years old, Class 2 A.

It is a fact that New York City school children would like to have a tooth brush drill every day. It is better than gymnastics or folk dances, for everyone can do it, even the babies of the kindergarten and the little crippled children.

On tooth brush day, a teacher noticed that one little boy looked very much ashamed and was trying to hide his tooth brush.

"What is the matter with the brush?" asked the teacher, and when Johnnie-Smith held it up shamefacedly, everyone could see that it was not new, but very much worn.

"Why, that is very nice, Johnnie," said the teacher. It shows that you have been brushing your teeth before. Children, why is Johnnie's tooth brush better than the others?"

"Because it has been used," answered the children in unison, and Johnnie was the proudest boy in the room.

"Did you buy this brush?" asked a visitor of one of the little girls.

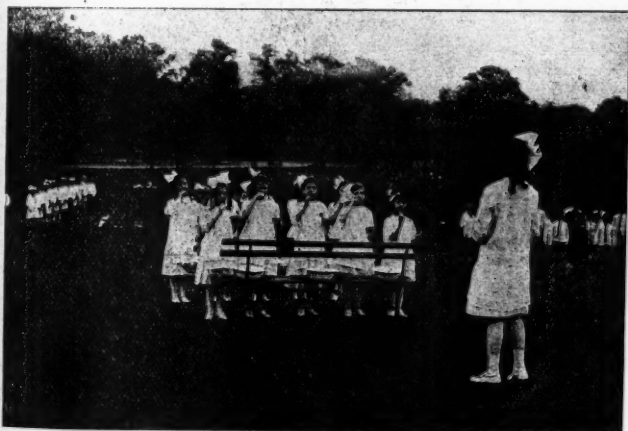
"No'm, this is my sister's," replied the child.

Dental Hygiene Week was made possible by the public spirited dental profession of New York City, who coöperated with the bureau of educational hygiene, through the



A Prize Winner

director, Dr. C. Ward Crampton, and Dr. I. H. Goldberger and Dr. Frances Cohen, assistant directors. Dr. A. H. Stevenson of Brooklyn, of the Oral Hygiene Committee of New York State Dental Society, had charge of much of



Brushing according to count



Publicity furnished by the daily press

the detail work, and was complimented by Dr. Crampton and his associates for his willingness in giving up his time to make the campaign a success.

"We wish it were possible for you and them (Dr. Stevenson's associates) to hear from all sides the innumerable expressions of appreciation of the results of the work," Dr. Crampton wrote to Dr. Stevenson. "An immeasurable benefit had been derived by our school children," the letter continued, "and by their parents from this educational campaign." In closing Dr. Crampton said:

"We hope to be able to count upon your coöperation again, in our second annual Dental Hygiene campaign, next year."

As a result of Dental Hygiene Week, the department of health is considering combining with the department of education in trying out a plan to insist upon pupils having their teeth in sound condition before they graduate. Several school principals have expressed the opinion that efficiency in health should be as important and as essential to graduation as one's knowledge of history, reading, geography, etc. The advisability of establishing some health standard is being discussed, by which children shall be judged. Every effort will be made, at any rate to acquaint the child with his defects, so that when informed he will have no excuse for failure to remove a remedial defect or to improve a chronic one.

## THE MILLION DOLLAR PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION

FORTY-FOUR essays were received in competition for the four prizes offered and they have been forwarded to Dr. N. F. Hoff of Ann Arbor who will examine them carefully and when he has reached his decision as to the four best, they will be forwarded to Dr. C. N. Johnson of Chicago, who will send them to Dr. Burton Lee Thorpe of St. Louis, Mo. Then they are sent back to the editor with their decision and forthwith we will forward the winners their prizes. This is written in June and it is possible that the prizes will have been forwarded before this appears in August, although announcement of the names may not appear until the October number. Material for the magazine has to be prepared sometime in advance that you may receive it regularly and this will account for most of the delay. The prize essays will appear in an early number.

## A MILLION DOLLARS FOR ORAL HYGIENE A REALITY

Rochester's New Dental Infirmary Gift of Mr. George Eastman.

**S**ECOND only in importance to the gift of the Forsyth brothers of Boston is this new uplift to the work of oral hygiene and it is the happy privilege of the editor of this magazine to give the first news of this great charity soon to become a reality through the generosity of one of Rochester's philanthropic citizens, Mr. George Eastman of the Eastman Kodak Company.

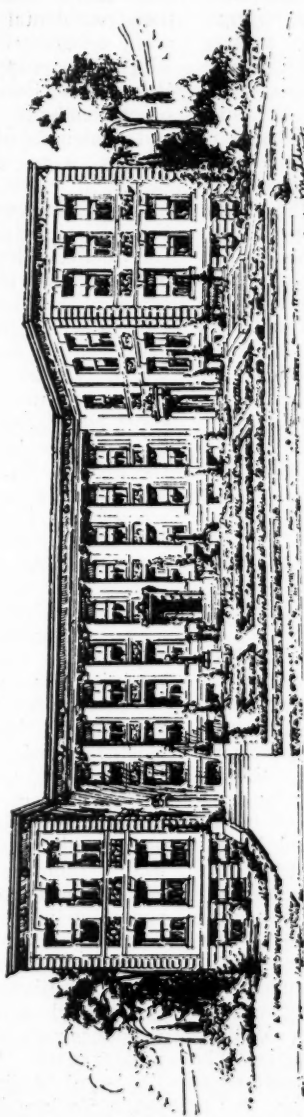
A site on East Main Street, between Alexander and Prince streets, with a frontage of 180 feet and a depth of 200 feet has been purchased by the donor and a building modeled on the lines of the Forsyth Infirmary will be erected to cost three hundred thousand dollars. The plan is even more ambitious than the work at Boston. Besides the central plant on Main street east, it includes traveling outfits and prophylactic treatments, examinations, lectures and tooth brush drills in the public schools by a corps of paid dental hygienists.

Before arriving at a decision in the matter of endowing the work in Rochester, Mr. Eastman made several trips to the Forsyth Infirmary. The new building will have the benefit of their experience and they have volunteered every help and as-

sistance. A committee of the society also visited the Boston institution as well as the work at Bridgeport, Conn., and the new Evans Institute at Philadelphia, that they might present a workable plan for the new Infirmary.

The building having been erected, the city of Rochester will be asked to contribute the sum of \$20,000 annually; the sum of \$10,000 will be donated by private citizens and Mr. Eastman will contribute \$30,000 for maintenance. These amounts will be given each year for five years and at the end of this period, Mr. Eastman will endow the institution with \$750,000 which will provide sufficient funds for its full maintenance. The whole plan embraces an expenditure of nearly a million and a half dollars.

Twenty seven years ago the dentists of Rochester started a free dental dispensary in the City Hospital which was discontinued after two years. Although this dispensary was abandoned for lack of support, the interest was never lost and several of the younger members of the society persisted in the feasibility of resuming the charity. A committee was appointed and after serving two years, with frequent reports of nothing accomplished, Dr. F. W.



The Rochester Dental Infirmary, Rochester, N. Y.  
Gift of Mr. George Eastman



Proseus acting as chairman, reported that Capt. Henry Lomb would equip a free dental dispensary if the dentists of Rochester would donate their services. The sum of \$600 was given the society and this was deemed sufficient but by gifts from private citizens and the dental trade, the society opened the free dental dispensary on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1905, with an equipment valued at \$1,200. It was thought desirable to have the dispensary in some one of the hospitals but none offering quarters with a suitable light, the work was established in the rooms of the Rochester Public Health Association and has been in continuous operation ever since.

The dentists gave their services the first year, after which paid interns were employed. On the death of Captain Lomb, it developed on the dentists to support the charity and funds were solicited from the citizens to conduct the same. Their response has been continuous and with the help of funds secured by giving several operas and funds furnished by the city during the past two years, the work has been uninterrupted. The city gave \$1,000 for the support of the work in 1914 and voted \$4,000 for 1915. Outside of this no municipal support has been given. Mr. William Hodge, while starring in, "The Man from Home," offered to give \$1,000 to the most worthy charity in the city and

the amount was awarded to the free dental dispensaries after a vigorous campaign in which the support of the Board of Education and superintendents, supervisors and principals of the public schools were an important factor.

On Washington's birthday, February 22, 1910, the first free dental dispensary in a public school in the United States was opened in school No. 14 which has since been destroyed by fire. Public school No. 26 was equipped at an expense of \$1,500 a short time after with everything of the latest and best, the gift of Mr. Bausch who has taken a continuous interest in the free dispensaries. It is largely through his efforts that Mr. Eastman was interested in work of the society. Both of these gentlemen have contributed liberally to the support of the work in the past.

The tentative plans call for a building three stories in height, fitted with some twenty dental units and room for as many more. Research and radiographic laboratories, orthodontia, oral surgery and lecture rooms will be provided, in short nothing will be spared to make this a model infirmary complete in every detail. An important part of the institution will be the educational work, of which announcement will be given at a later date. It is expected the board of directors will be made up largely of business men and one or two dentists.

As a result of the careful supervision and financing of the dental dispensaries for the past ten years and wide publicity given the same through *The Dental Dispensary Record*, published for four years by the society, the citizens of Rochester have full confidence in the dentists of the city, and that they will take up this new work with intelligence and despatch. Certainly no body of men are better fitted for a work of

this character and with ten years' experience back of them, this new dental infirmatory will be an uplift to the whole dental profession. This is a fresh illustration of how rapidly the work of oral hygiene is pushing forward and it is up to us as members of the dental profession to make good. Great opportunities mean great responsibilities and we should pray unceasingly that we be found worthy and well qualified.

## THE BLESSINGS OF THE TOOTH BRUSH

E. B. CLAPP, Boston, Mass.

This is short and very much to the point. The writer thoroughly believes in the efficiency of the toothbrush. Most of us do. It certainly will do more good work in a short time than any other means at our command. There is no more excuse for its becoming filthy than any other toilet article if a proper amount of care is exercised.

I CANNOT offer for the interest of the readers a poem to begin or end this article—should I have a choice it might be, "Onward Progressive Dentist," for this is the day and age of progression, of perfection, of efficiency.

There are always two sides to any subject, and articles appearing in the March and May numbers of *Oral Hygiene* condemn the use of the tooth brush; there are others who feel as strongly that the tooth brush is a decided blessing.

A dentist or any other worker cannot do without

tools, something tangible to see, to hold, to use; the ordinary human cannot properly clean their teeth without a tool for the purpose, namely a tooth brush. Could a dentist fill a tooth with his fingers, round off the rough places with a piece of gauze and polish with a piece of silk floss? I doubt it. To sweep a floor as it should be one would not use a cloth on the end of a stick and expect a satisfactory result, a good housekeeper uses a stiff broom; goes for the cracks and sweeps thoroughly.

The street sweeper might be an object lesson for 'tis

true it sweeps only the surface of the cobblestones but, heaven forbid that it should do more; none of us are as yet ready to look into the bowels of the earth, which would be the case if it swept the dirt from between the stones as the March article suggested it should do.

The dirt around the cobblestones is the same as the pink gums around our teeth, then why wish to sweep it away. The street sweeper is used to brush up the debris that collects, kindly note that a broom is used for the same purpose, then why if we are comparing our mouths to the street should n't we use a broom to sweep our teeth, massage with this brushing motion the gums, making them cling the more firmly around the teeth we are all anxious to save?

The use of dental floss is a delicate task for a trained hand, then how expect a child to use it and not seriously injure the gums. We teach the child independence of action by supplying with instruments of use, a spoon to eat with, a plate to eat from, a cup to drink with, then why not go further and when he has finished his little meal, give him a little broom to sweep out the crumbs, in other words brush his teeth.

We chastise the child if he puts his fingers in his mouth as it is an uncleanly habit, we watch that he does n't breathe through his mouth, as it cramps the arch, making crooked teeth. From the

age of teeth cutting to the stage of solid food and reasoning, we impress and practice on the child the advantage of straight teeth, of clean teeth, of keeping the fingers out of the mouth, and yet, instead of a tooth brush to aid these teachings, it is suggested that we wrap the little fingers in gauze and teach the child to PUT his fingers in his mouth.

Choose a small toy-like brush, put it into a child's hand and I'll bet a dollar to a doughnut it will instinctively go into the little one's mouth, and the next thing after it has tasted its working tool, it will look around to see what to do with it, usually he will scrub something, why not teach him to scrub his teeth?

If we are going to advance to the extent of modernizing the Japanese methods by doing away with the salt and water and use our modern lotions, why not advance WITH the Japanese and use the tooth brush. The writer of this article spent the years of childhood in the land of cherry blossoms and pigtailed and the earliest recollections I have was of my Japanese nurse soundly scolding me for not wishing to brush my teeth with the queer little stubby tooth brush well covered with powdered charcoal and rinsing afterwards with a little alum and water.

Early in the morning you can visit any Japanese home, look into their back yards and see the family at their

morning toilet, namely a tooth brush, bowl of alum water and powdered charcoal, the rinsing of the mouth after the tooth brushing process evidently is largely accountable for the artistic manner that clothes are sprinkled in the laundries by these same people.

All the good hotels in Japan provide for their guests a new tooth brush each day. This is hygiene for you, and a strong word in favor of the brush.

There are people who feel that a toothbrush is like an article of furniture, if they pay fifty cents for a brush it should last a lifetime. They do not consider that to get wear from any article, a tooth brush or otherwise, they must have changes, their teeth may be rough and uneven, thus wearing a brush and cutting the bristles, to the extent of getting the offenders down their throats; they always blame the brush.

Few people realize the importance of frequently changing a brush, and that small brushes with bone handles give the best satisfaction, i. e. (bone handles are not subject to climate changes as are the celluloid or flexible handles and do not dry and break with slight use as other kinds.)

The manufacture of the tooth brush, its use and abuse, would form a good topic for our future enlightenment. We accept the brush as a matter of course,

never thinking it may also cry—"YOU HURT ME."

The suggestion was made that a surgeon would never think of scrubbing a wound with a brush, so why scrub our tender gums and teeth with a brush? Our mouths are not open sores, if they were, the place for treatment is with a physician, not a dentist. I have always noted that a surgeon is most particular to scrub his hands thoroughly with a brush before operating, then undoubtedly the thing to do is to scrub our teeth with a brush before we allow a dentist to operate, if we expect to get them clean.

Our mouths are the homes of our teeth, our teeth are the grinding machines for our food that sustains life within us, then in order to keep the machinery going we must keep it clean, and in order to do this we must scrub it. There is only one efficient way to get them thoroughly clean. Use a tooth brush.

It is a well known fact that the tooth brush has done more for the actual promoting of mouth hygiene and assisting in the prevention of decay, as is daily demonstrated among the children of the schools, than any other instrument.

As all good work to gain a firm foundation is begun from infancy, why doesn't this tooth brush drill work, carried on so extensively in the schools with such helpful results, prove that the tooth brush is a decided *blessing*?

## RADIOGRAPHY

ARTHUR W. SMITH, D.D.S., Rochester, N. Y.

The writer does not think the X-ray proposition either difficult to master, expensive to operate or equip. While the whole dental profession seems to be chasing this new fad to the limit at the present time, there is undoubtedly a well defined place for an X-ray apparatus in every well regulated dental office. We are glad this is so and we dentists are to have a good excuse for owning and making the successful operation of such apparatus a part of our practice. The general public certainly look on the medical man who stands behind this machine as some wizard and come forward with their \$5 per, so easy, it is a shame to take the money.

THE value of the dental radiograph to the general practitioner as a diagnostic measure and especially as an aid to consistent canal filling is now very generally recognized. That this valuable adjunct to a dentist's equipment can be installed and operated simply, safely and inexpensively is not so widely known. The conception prevails that only by the high priced and cumbersome machines, formerly required, can satisfactory results be obtained but the manufacture of portable and smaller stationary machines, powerful enough to take a clear picture in less than four seconds, has made radiography possible for every dentist.

It is not necessary to have more than an elementary knowledge of electricity or of photography. After one becomes accustomed to the quality of spark necessary and has adjusted the vacuum in the tube to the current, the electrical part of the machine can be forgotten so long as the operator and patient keep a safe distance from the "live" side, while

the development of the film is so simple that the young lady assistant can easily learn to do it.

About a year ago the writer installed a portable coil machine and the entire outfit including two "leaded" platinum target tubes, tube stand, developing box and equipment for developing films, cost less than \$150. Since that time the small developing box has been replaced by a dark room, made by placing weather strips around the door of a small closet and installing an electric light over which a dark-room lantern is placed. In an office where a closet is not available, the developing box answers the purpose admirably. It may be purchased or if desired made from a small light proof box about twenty inches square, with an arm hole on either side covered with a sleeve made of heavy, black cloth. An opening is made at the top of the box, covered with ruby glass to exclude the white light and an eye piece made of leather and fur surrounds this. The cover of

the box is removable. After the pictures have been exposed the developer and fixing solutions are placed in the box, the cover is put in place and the developing is done by the aid of the hands operated through the sleeve holes and watched through the opening in the top. A small dark lantern attached to a dry cell may be used inside the box.

With the machine mentioned, and using the Eastman positive X-ray film, an exposure of twenty seconds is required while with the negative film, a good picture is obtained with a five second exposure. The latter however does not give as sharp a picture as the former while it is obvious that the longer exposure required for the former is objectionable, especially with a nervous patient. More than a thousand exposures have been made with the machine and apparently the apparatus is good for another thousand.

From a financial point of view the outfit has been a most remunerative investment, yielding approximately 400 per cent. The writer charges a fee of \$5.00 for one exposure and \$1.00 extra for each additional exposure taken at the same sitting. For radiographing the entire mouth therefore a charge of \$10 is usually made.

The financial side of the matter, however, is a minor consideration and is only used here as an argument to influence more young men

to take up the work.

In diagnosing obscure dental lesions, in placing root canal operations, abscess treatments and oral surgery on a more accurate basis and in checking up after operations, the radiograph is invaluable and in many cases absolutely essential to consistent dentistry. It is a very simple matter for instance in doing a root canal operation to radiograph the tooth before treatment, during treatment with wires in the canals to determine their length and direction, and after filling to show how accurately it has been done. Of course the fees mentioned above need not be adhered to in these cases, although it is surprising how readily the patients learn to appreciate the superior advantages of these methods.

An argument presented by some against installing machines is the danger of the X-ray burn. With a leaded glass tube, and to be especially cautious, a lead screen, the danger is reduced to the vanishing point.

Considering the cost of installing an outfit, the simplicity of operation, the great increase in the efficiency of the operator and the financial remuneration, the odds are overwhelmingly in favor of every dentist doing this work in his own office. By starting with an inexpensive coil machine and later installing a more efficient outfit, as the writer has just done, one may become a

radiographer without taking special courses and without mortgaging his equipment.

One problem remains, however — diagnosing the radiograph after it is obtained. One may become a radiographer after a few experiments but to become a radiologist, one must examine thousands of pictures, comparing the apparent conditions observed with the actual findings in the mouth. Much harm may be done by declaring that a root canal

is not filled properly, simply because no filling shows in the radiograph or by stating that a dark area at the apex of the root indicates pus. It is undoubtedly true that radiographs do not lie but the difficulty is with us poor mortals in interpreting what they show.

It is to be hoped that in the very near future, an X-ray machine will be considered an indispensable portion of every dental equipment.

---

## THE FALLACY OF THE DENTAL GUARANTEE

---

W. H. SAVAGE, D.D.S., Clifton Forge, Va.

THE dentist is often asked, "Doctor, do you guarantee your work?" The writer's usual reply is, "I do not guarantee anything; not even that you will reach home alive." Then follows an explanation. The patient is told that the teeth, being parts of the human body, are subject to the laws of change, nutrition, growth, and may be affected by diseases of the body, lowered vital resistance, etc. Also that dental work is of such a nature that a dentist may no more guarantee the permanency of his handiwork than the physician, who cannot assure his patient whom he has successfully treated that he will not again contract disease. The patient is further informed

that to guarantee our work as an inducement to patronage is unethical, unprofessional; that as a rule it is the quack who is most ready to guarantee and warrant.

Assuredly, the patient has a viewpoint of such reasoning and is often not disposed to throw his money away, which mental attitude is readily portrayed by the exclamation, "Why, I have already had this tooth filled three times! If you fill it, how long will it last and be of some service? I have spent enough on it."

If a gold filling is indicated and you believe that five years represent the average length of usefulness of such a filling, what shall you tell this patient? You must certainly believe that, how-



ever well you may do your part, if conditions, similar to those that produced decay in the first instance, be allowed to exist again, that recurrence of decay will most likely attack the tooth where the filling stops. The mouth, having been brought to a proper state of health, should be kept so by the patient's efforts, co-operating with the dentist by means of frequent examinations and timely advice. The patient must be properly educated along such lines, and it is incumbent upon the dentist to teach, preach and practice "Oral Prophylaxis."

He certainly must not assume that his patient knows, for he may discover that his patient "knows many things that are not so," due, perhaps, to the fact that his source of information was a dental article written by a medical man for a popular magazine. This man when run to cover has been known to acknowledge that he is paid two cents per word for his effervescence. The National Dental Association can never hope to do a more blessed work than to aid in educating the general public along dental lines.

Undoubtedly, there are some good, conscientious operators who do guarantee the permanency of their work for a given length of time. This the writer considers a decided error, and the young men coming into the profession should be

cautioned against such a course. It is obvious that no man with a practice worthy of the name can do either himself or his patient justice without keeping a record of his work. Truly time flies, and if the filling, presumed to last forever and a day, should fail ingloriously, you will at least know when it was inserted. Often, indeed, you will be unable to reconcile the patient's "three years or so" with the record's five or six.

Apropos of the thought that some fillings will not stay as proposed, but with the perversity of inanimate things in general, persist in destroying the cordial relations between dentist and patient, comes the recollection of the blacksmith who repaired the farmer's wagon wheel.

He did his work carefully as becomes a workman who is not ashamed and rendered this guarantee, "If it does not stand, bring it back." At first test the wheel promptly broke. A second trip to the shop resulted in a second repair and elicited the same injunction, "If it does not stand, bring it back." A third breakdown, a third visit to the shop, and the now monotonous "If it does not stand, bring it back," brought forth from the farmer "Who is going to pay me for my time?" Smithy's reply should have been rendered in the explosive form.

## IN DEFENSE OF EMETINE

WM. QUITT, D.D.S., Baltimore, Md.

The author has secured most favorable results in his practice with emetine and enters his protest of Dr. Lindsay's article in the May number.

THE condemnation of emetine as a cure for pyorrhea by Dr. George R. Lindsay, of Denver, Colo., to my mind, is unjust, and seems to be based on the absence of scientific or clinical proof, chiefly upon prejudice.

After enumerating the different varieties of bacteria that are found in pyorrhea pockets and pointing out the importance of instrumentation, he says, "I wish to warn the dental profession that emetine, as a cure for pyorrhea, is a delusion and a snare." Perhaps Dr. Lindsay knows whereof he speaks, but he surely does not bring forth any tangible evidence to substantiate his conclusion. The mere statement that it does not appeal to him is not scientific enough to carry conviction to a reasonable mind. As a matter of fact Dr. Lindsay does not even state that he, himself, tried the use of emetine, but merely seems to condemn it on general principles.

My personal experience with the drug has been very gratifying. All cases of pyorrhea that came under my observation were cured with emetine. Nevertheless, I dare not as yet conclude, even from my successful experience with the drug, that every case of pyorrhea could

be cured by treating it with emetine. I am convinced, however, that emetine is a most valuable drug in the treatment of this dreaded disease.

Even if all cases of pyorrhea cannot be controlled by emetine, that fact would not be sufficient ground to condemn the drug, and consider it worthless. One might as well say that diphtheria antitoxin is a delusion and a snare, because, in some cases, the result of its use were not satisfactory. If emetine is so worthless as Dr. Lindsay says, how can we account for the phenomena, that after the first few injections of the drug, the bleeding stops, pus disappears, and the general condition of the gums is so much improved that even a layman can notice it? I am confident that everyone who tries emetine will confirm my statement as to the results obtained thereby.

Dr. Lindsay further claims that every dentist possessing the proper instruments and required skill can cure all cases of pyorrhea. In this connection I may say that cases have come under my observation where every detail of instrumentation was carried out in conjunction with the iodine treatment, and yet the results were by no means

satisfactory. He also asserts that the marked improvement of the general condition of gums is due to the proper scaling. In this respect I may also say that I do not claim to be a more skillful operator at this time than I was six or seven months ago, and yet I did not obtain similar satisfactory results be-

fore using emetine, than those I obtained after using the drug. Consequently, I am convinced that the cause of this marked improvement is the wonderful emoebaecidal action of emetine, which fact makes the drug a blessing to humanity as well as to the dental profession.

## THRIFT

HARRY J. HORNER, D.D.S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Thrift in one age is extravagance in another. The boss on a job will tell the carpenter not to pick up nails; his time is worth more than the saving of cheap hardware made by machinery. The boy who saves pieces of twine and wrapping paper is out of place in hurry-up America. Harriman saving scraps of writing paper and Russell Sage's economy in purchasing are poor examples of thrift. Likewise the man who "saves" taxicab money on a rainy night and thereby enriches the tailor, dressmaker or milliner. I haven't bought a gold brick this year but I'm saving up for one. The man who has missed buying a lot of blue sky and a real rainbow, has something coming to him.

THERE seems to be a mistaken idea abroad as to just what is meant by the word

There seems to be a mistaken idea abroad as to just what is meant by the word "Thrift." Thrift is more than prudence, which is merely good judgment and foresight in the practicable affairs of life. It is more than economy, which is a disposition to save. It is more than frugality, which is prudent economy in the care of money or goods. Many people have the idea that thrift means stinginess, always saving and never spending, but in reality thrift no more means saving money than it means spending money; it means administration of a

house; its stewardship; spending or saving, whether money, time or anything else, to the best possible advantage. At times, spending, instead of saving, may be the wisest course. Thrift at once earns and saves, with a view to wholesome and profitable expenditure at a fitting time. But the actual accumulation of money is the outward and visible sign that a man is really thrifty, and although thrift means more than just saving, to a large extent saving is the measure of a man's progress.

Thrift is not only the open door to happiness and prosperity, but a more effective solvent than the interminable grinding out of new laws,

for many of the real and imaginary ills which have recently been featured in political platforms and sensational magazines. A National thrift in a campaign to fight extravagance and teach habits of economy to the masses would be bound to produce far better results than any of the legislative drugs with which the nation is being nauseated.

Thrift does not come at our beck and call, nor can it be slipped on or off like an old coat. It is established by practice rather than theory, by example rather than precept.

To spend money extravagantly or wastefully, or to run in debt once, may be a mere circumstance. To do so twice may represent a condition but to do so persistently, continuously and constantly, represents clearly a habit.

They say that the spend-thrift gives employment to others and his money gets into the bank eventually even if he deposits none of it there himself. That is all very true, but how much better it is to have the money used constructively in ways which mean sobriety, industry, home ownership, integrity, good citizenship and education. Saving just for the sake of saving is not advocated. Thoughtful, purposeful saving is the thing. One of the best definitions of thrift does not say what thrift is, but tells what it does. Industry earns, economy manages,

prudence plans, frugality saves, but thrift earns, plans, manages and saves.

Thrift is a habit, just as wastefulness, extravagance, and carelessness are habits, and the thrift habit can be acquired, but not in a day or all at one time, and it takes patience and time and self-denial to acquire this habit of thrift, but when once formed and you once realize, the freedom and loss of debt worry, and happiness that naturally results from the rut, of debt into the free air of financial independence you will be more than repaid for your self denials.

Money isn't everything. It can't always buy health and happiness, but if by your present thrift, you are able to get into comfortable circumstances and banish the worry of debt, will you not be doing something that will surely make for health and happiness? While saving alone is not thrift, it is an indispensable part of it. The greatest happiness to be secured from the accumulation of money and property is the thought that comes with it, and he who has accumulated a competency to be independent in his old age—is not to be an object of charity. Don't you know that the world respects an old man who is independent, while no one respects the shiftless man who has gone through life and wasted his opportunities? And every man with health has an opportunity, but this opportu-

ity comes only through thrift. You must make self-denials if you would be thrifty.

In talking to a dentist a short time ago who is located in one of Ohio's small towns he told me that the week before our conversation he had worked seventeen hours one day, and sixteen hours a day for two days. Now to illustrate that thrift does not apply to money alone, we will say this man probably had the best practice in the town, working for the best people and getting the best fees for his work and his credit was all right and he had money in the bank, but he was absolutely unthrifty because he was burning up that most priceless of all his possessions, his own vitality, and you who have worked long hours at dentistry know how true this is.

A prominent banker in one of our foremost cities made the remarkable statement recently that a large proportion of the people in the community he served, were ashamed to be seen making deposits in a savings bank. He was astounded that such a thing could be possible but while never having had it brought home to him so forcibly before, this statement simply confirmed what he had come to realize as a result of his long experience during the past two and a half years—viz: That thrift is unpopular. Why is this so, and who is to blame that something which leads to better living, better homes, better citizens and a

greater country is unpopular? Misconception, ignorance and limited vision are responsible for this condition. That a person should be ashamed to be seen making a small weekly deposit in a savings bank, indicates a false pride which is one of our besetting sins as a nation—the desire to assume a social position not in keeping with our financial position, and a tendency to look to future increase in income, to provide for the future rather than to do so from immediate income.

The tendency of American life is to spend rather than economize. The teaching of thrift in order to overcome our thriftlessness in saving in order to meet the tendency to waste, in accumulating slowly rather than in getting rich quickly, is very necessary, in America. The example of France, which has made the teaching of thrift a part of the school curriculum with the resulting frugality and prosperity of its people, pointedly suggests to us that it would be profitable for the schools of this country to inaugurate education in saving.

Lord Roseberry, the famous British statesman, said: "Whatever thrift is, it is not avarice." Avarice is not generous, and after all, it is the thrifty people who are generous. Generosity can only proceed from thrift, and I venture to say that all the great philanthropists, all the great financial benefactors of whom we have any record, the most generous of all must have been thrifty men.

With your permission I will quote from an article entitled "Thrift Among the Rich," which appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post*.

"Analyse thrift and you find that it may range from putting aside pennies for the rainy day to a definite, organized campaign against waste among millions. Since the common idea of great wealth naturally eliminates the sacrifice that saving sometimes imposes, the question arises: Why should the rich be thrifty? Ask any rich man and you will find out. You learn that the accumulation of money begets the fixed habit of demanding a full return on outlay. That is thrift.

"Men of wealth learn the value of money; and when they expend it, no matter for what purpose, they are determined to get its full equivalent."

"In the analysis you discover the money bestowed by the rich, whether in gratuities to servants or for the cost of living, must answer the question: Has full value been rendered? A hundred cents' worth of work is demanded of every dollar.

One day when E. H. Harriman was changing the face of the railroad map, a great corporation lawyer sat alongside his desk discussing a business transaction. Following his habit the little wizard was doing two things at once—as he talked he went through his correspondence. He threw useless papers into

the wastebasket, but he carefully removed the metal clips that held them together and laid them aside. When he came to a two-page letter with writing on one page only, he tore off the blank sheet and put it away for memorandum use. The visitor was so much impressed by these acts that he remarked:

"I see you are still thrifty, Mr. Harriman."

"Yes," replied the master of the Pacific: "No man can afford not to be. Only the poor are wasteful."

Here was the overlord of our steam transportation marching to a personal conquest of nearly a hundred million dollars and doing a simple piece of conservation that a small-salaried clerk would despise. Yet his performance was typical of the attitude of most of his colleagues in the gilded circle of vast estate.

Strange as it may seem to the average man, whose idea of thrift is the tiny sum snatched by the worker from his weekly wage, the habit of small saving finds constant and picturesque expression among the rich.\* The self-made millionaire amassed his wealth because he knew the value of thrift—it is the basis of all prosperity—and he remains a millionaire because he continues to practice the prudence that conserved the pennies on which his fortune was reared.

The spectacle of Harriman saving clips and scraps of paper is not different from

that of John D. Rockefeller—bargaining with a caddy over a difference of five cents in his hire; from that of August Belmont stooping to pick up every pin he sees; or from that of James Stillman—wandering over the National City Bank in the old days, turning out the lights that careless subordinates had left burning when they went out.

Many rich men use street cars to save cab hire. The late H. B. Claflin, who was one of New York's merchant princes, was a conspicuous example of this. He lived uptown and rode down every day in the Madison Avenue cars. One of his employees—head of a large department—who had considerable income and extravagant tastes, rode down in his carriage. One day he met his chief afoot. The old merchant stopped and said with indignation:

"You should not drive to work in a carriage. The example is bad. Besides, you should save your money and not spend it on horses. If I can afford to ride in the street cars, you can."

The man did not heed the advice. To deceive his employer he got out of his carriage a block from the store and gave the impression that he had walked down. But what happened? He lost his job; he had saved no money and died in want. Mr. Claflin, who could afford to ride in a street car left millions."

I have quoted these examples from the lives of these

successful men to prove that small economies are not to be despised or overlooked and it almost seems as if these habits of economy are necessary to success.

Thrift, like charity begins at home, and if you are unable to cultivate the habit of thrift in your office and in your home, and to carry out plans for betterment in a small way, how can you expect to successfully invest the result of your savings.

Dentistry has been called a sick profession and many cures have been offered, but I do not know of any that have been altogether successful.

I do not want anyone to get the idea that I am not in favor of every man getting the highest fees possible for his services, and doing his work in the best possible manner, but I do want to say that securing high fees will not be the cure for the sick profession that we are looking for. I believe the proper understanding and the practice of thrift in its full meaning, will solve more of our difficulties than any other one thing. Now as I said before get high fees, get them just as high as you can, but if you have raised your fees to their maximum and find you are not able to finance yourself properly and keep the worry of debt away, I would suggest that you try and increase your efficiency without lowering the standard of your work, i. e. if it takes you a certain time to perform an operation



and you feel that you are not getting enough for it, try and do it in less time and thereby increase your income. If, however, you feel that you have reached the maximum fees and the maximum efficiency, and are still unable to make your income greater than your "out go," then don't you think it is time to get down to the facts and to realize that the income to be derived from dentistry has its limitations. We have all heard in this free country of ours, it is possible for any man to be President of the United States, yet you all know how very few ever reach the White House. A few men in this country have princely incomes from dentistry, but I do not believe that the time will ever come when many men will earn from twenty to a hundred thousand dollars a year by practising dentistry.

It is quite possible for many dentists to be well able to own an automobile, but I do not think the time will come when a man can have a half dozen automobiles with a winter home in Florida and a summer home in Canada, and time to spend in each and still practice dentistry. I say this simply to make you realize that there is a limit and you may as well make your mind up to it.

We hear a great deal about educating the people to the necessity of dentistry. Did you ever stop to think what class of people need this education most? Nearly all of

the people we associate with are having dentistry done now even if our methods are not perfect and our operations are not always painless. So it naturally follows that the recruits must come from that great class of common people, of whom Abraham Lincoln spoke when he said the Lord must have loved them for he made so many of them. You all know how useless it would be to talk about twenty-five dollar crowns and four dollar amalgam fillings to these people. So some of us will have to increase our efficiency enough to be able to work for them at a profit.

#### CREDIT

The hardest problem of the average dentist whether in the city or the town seems to be to properly finance himself. By this I mean to run his business in such a way that the financial end of it will not worry him. We surely have enough worries by the side of the dental chair without having to wonder whether when the office door opens we will meet the incomer with a smile if a new patient, or with a frown if an old collector.

We were told not long ago that one of the reasons why dentists were not considered good tenants in office buildings was because they did not pay their rent promptly. This is a deplorable state of affairs, when dentists will not meet such an overhead expense as rent and meet it promptly.

You would scarcely believe some of the stories I have

heard about how careless professional men are, in regard to taking proper care of their credit, and I believe our credit, to be the most valuable asset we have.

I know a dentist whose office is located but a short distance from a supply house and his credit is so bad that the supply house has even refused to send goods to his office C. O. D.

I know another dentist, whose income from his practice is said to be over \$10,000 and whose credit at a certain place was limited to one hundred dollars. The limit was reached years ago. The balance of one hundred dollars stood and was not paid. The dentist was buying on a cash basis and for just one hundred dollars he had placed himself in a position where he had no credit or rather where he had reached the limit of his credit. And he was no better off than the fellow with no credit at all, and not as well off as the fellow with a two thousand dollar business, and all the credit he needed.

It was necessary for a prominent Pittsburgh business man to have a major surgical operation performed on a member of his family. He engaged a surgeon, whose ability to successfully perform the operation was unquestioned. He found the surgeon waiting for him in the hospital the day after the operation who volunteered to take him to his place of business in his high priced auto-

mobile, driven by a uniformed chauffeur. Imagine the surprise of the business man when the surgeon said to him. "I know it will not make any difference to you whether you write me a check for my services to-day or after you receive a statement from me the first of the month, and I am so hard up for money to meet some pressing obligations that I do not know which way to turn, I am going to ask you to give me a check at once." The business man agreed and the surgeon received his check. But what was the result? To use the business man's own words, he said, "Never again." "He performed the operation all right, but if I ever have to employ another surgeon I will get one who is not so much worried by his finances. I would be afraid to trust him."

The ability of the surgeon was all right, but his credit was bad.

One of the most necessary things to a dentist, first, last, and all the time is the dental supply houses. So by all means keep your credit good with these fellows. You cannot get along without them, you must have them, so keep your credit good with them and make them your friends, then you can use them to your own advantage. You can only get a limited amount of credit, anyway. It may be \$50, \$100 or \$150, but when the limit is reached the arguments begin and you are on a cash basis again.

Buy in quantities for cash and get all the discount you can. There is a double saving in doing this. First, you save time by not continually buying in small quantities; if you telephone your order, you have your telephone call to pay for, and you often lose time by waiting for delivery of goods. And second, you can always get better prices and more liberal discounts by buying for cash and in quantities. Habits once formed are hard to get away from, and the financial habits of some of us are so bad that I believe that if our office rent and all office supplies were furnished free some of us would still be in debt and have poor credit.

#### INVESTMENTS.

Now we will suppose that we are all practicing the ways of thrift, and have been able to save a little money, so what will we do with it? I could write pages and pages filled with the failures of many "get rich quick" schemes, but what's the use. Here is an Abe Lincoln story that will fit the most of us.

The following letter written by Abraham Lincoln approaching thrift or the lack of it—from different viewpoints, typical of that keen, level headed statesman, in answer to an inquiry from an eastern merchant, regarding the responsibility and character of a fellow townsman, when Lincoln was a young lawyer in Illinois, is given verbatim: Dear Sir: Yours of the 10th received. I am

well acquainted with the gentlemen named and know his circumstances. First of all, he has a wife and baby. Together they ought to be worth \$50,000 to any man. Then he has an office in which there is a table worth about \$1.50 and three chairs worth say, \$1.00. Last of all there is in one corner, a rat hole which will bear looking into. Respectfully, Abraham Lincoln.

This story is not new to all of us, for a brother dentist told me not long ago that he put \$11,000 into rat holes in the last few years. Another told me of \$10,000 he had lost. These sums were not all lost at once, but covered a period of years. Another dentist lost several hundred dollars in the Storey Cotton Company of Philadelphia—several dentists lost money in the American Guarantee Co. of Chicago, but why go on? Other dentists have invested money in Florida, Cuba, Brazil, Mexico, and all over the country, but have overlooked one of the best towns in the United States for investing, and that is our own town.

A high class salesman comes into our office and knowing the value of flattery, tells us that we are one of the selected few representative citizens of our city, who are to be favored by being given the privilege of purchasing for a few hundred dollars some of the stock he has for sale. Any of you who have been in practice for any length of time have had this experience, and

I am sorry to say many have invested their hard earned money, and never heard of it again.

Now why not bring some common sense to bear on a matter so important as separating you from the result of your labor and thrift. All of you have some one in your social or business acquaintance who has put something over and made a success of his line. So why not go to him and ask his advice. Remember this—the world is filled with advice, there are all kinds, good, bad, and indifferent, but the only advice that is worth considering, is that of a successful man. The man who has made a success of any line is one who will tell you that he has turned down many “get rich quick” schemes.

I believe in owning your own home and also that it is possible for anyone of you to do so.

One of our leading financiers, when asked how a man should invest his money, said: “There are good investments of course in bonds and stocks, if one buys outright and doesn’t go into speculation, but the average man who is not an expert in these transactions always runs the risk of not making the right investment. On the other hand, if a man buys real estate at the *right price*, and at the *right time*, he cannot make a mistake, but I would not want you to get the idea that you *cannot* make a mistake in real estate for you can, it is just

as necessary and important to get the right advice in this form of investment as in any other. When a man accumulates a large amount of money, that, of course, is different. Then he becomes experienced in stocks and bonds and his investments may be very profitable. But for the man of small means, I regard real estate the safest investment.

A great advantage that real estate investments have over other investments is the fact that they are in the investor’s hands and control.

If you buy real estate, it will not get away from you—the value of the ground will not depreciate in any of our growing cities, and you cannot, after having made such an investment, find that by mismanagement on the part of some one else, your principal is gone. If you buy stocks and bonds in nearly all cases, the management is under some one else, and you have little to say. By mismanagement large companies have often forced great losses on their stock and bond holders. Take the case of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, which in the New England States stood as high in the confidence of the people as does the Pennsylvania railroad in our state. A few years ago this stock was worth 200—today it is quoted at 70. This is a big decrease and one that could hardly happen in the real estate world.

Comparison of the holdings

of John Jacob Astor and E. H. Harriman at the time they died is another convincing proof that real estate is the better investment of the two. The valuation of Mr. Harriman's estate at his death, was estimated at many millions. He had his money invested in stocks and bonds. Upon inventory it was found that their value had depreciated 40 per cent., while the estate of Mr. Astor, who was largely an investor in real estate, had increased 25 per cent. This goes to show that the best place for a person to invest their money is in real estate.

Now I feel that I have gone far enough with this subject, and will close this paper by saying that it is quite within the ability of nearly all of us to be financially independent. Of course I know that there are exceptions to all rules and sickness, and some other things not under our control may hold us down for a while, but if we keep on striving, we will surely win out in the end.

President Wilson covered the ground when he said: "If

a man does not provide for his children, if he does not provide for all who are dependent upon him, and if he has not that vision of conditions to come, and that care for the days that have not yet dawned, which we sum up in the whole idea of thrift and saving, then he has not opened his eyes to any adequate conception of human life. We are in this world not to provide for ourselves alone, but for others, and that is the basis of economy. So that thrift and economy and everything which ministers to thrift and economy supplies the foundations of national life."

It was Robert Louis Stevenson who said "Happiness consists in earning a little and spending a little less."

So in the words of the poet:

Let us hope along together,  
Be the weather what it may—  
Where the sunlight, glad, is shining,  
Not repining by the way.  
Seek to add our meed and measure,  
To the old earth's joy and treasure—  
Not tomorrow, but today.

## IN DEFENSE OF THE TOOTHBRUSH

W. H. BARTH, D.D.S., Great Falls, Montana

It is our regret that the personal opinions of any writer in this magazine should have been quoted or made to appear as that of the majority of the dental profession. Dr. Feldman honestly stated his position and made no climax of voicing any opinion but his own.

I N the March issue of *Oral Hygiene*, Dr. Barnard Feldman contributed an article "The Menace of the Tooth Brush," which I failed to

notice until reproduced in the *Literary Digest* under the head of "The Tooth Brush Indicted."

He is quoted as saying the

tooth brush does not clean, and carries germs to the contact parts of the teeth which cause decay. Let me reply by asking if any dentist ever heard of germs transmitted by a tooth brush causing enamel to decay. He further states a tooth brush cannot be boiled with impunity, and practically all agents such as Trikresol or Formalin render the bristles of the brush or the handle unfit for further use. While at the conclusion he advocates the use of the forefinger to massage and clean the gums and the surface of the teeth. Whoever heard of anyone boiling his forefinger or holding it in Trikresol or Formalin to sterilize it? Dr. Feldman sanctions the use of modern lotions instead of water, in which he apparently recognizes the antiseptic value of mouth washes. If a lotion is efficient in the mouth why not use as a sterilizer for the brush, surely a person could leave it in this lotion longer than he could conveniently keep his forefinger there.

He claims experiments show the brush contains a quantity of germs comparable with the number found in the sewage. If a person uses his own toothbrush does he not get these germs from his mouth? As the Doctor has compared the toothbrush with the street sweeper, I should like to ask him if he would attribute the presence of germs in the gutter to the street sweeper? If a person contracted tuber-

culosis from a fly, it would be natural to blame the fly and not the person; therefore we should blame the filthy mouth rather than the tooth brush.

It is really too bad that so much publicity has been given to such reckless statements as those attributed to Dr. Feldman. The use of the tooth brush either soft or medium, has caused very little harm, if any, either to the teeth or the gums, and it has done a great deal to reduce inflammation of the gums when used to brush them, in place of using the forefinger to massage them. The use of the toothbrush has done more for the preservation of the teeth and the restoration of a healthy condition of the gums than anything else that has come to our knowledge.

It is safe to say that in fifty percent. of the cases of pyorrhea, the toothbrush is very seldom used, if at all. The proper use of the tooth brush is essential to the care of the teeth, there is no substitute. But that does not mean we should not use silk floss, for silk floss is a very good adjunct. No dentist would dispute the statement that the mouth in which a toothbrush has been used is more clean and free from decay than one in which it had not been used. How many people will massage their gums, use silk floss, strips, etc.? The tooth brush is handier, and it can be made as clean and aseptic as the forefinger.

Dr D. W. Barker, of Brooklyn, jumps in with both feet in defense of Dr. Feldman in the May issue which shows that Dr. Feldman has some following. If a man

started a religion which required every believer to stand on his head to worship his God he too would have a following. *Don't discard the tooth brush.*

## CORRESPONDENCE

Editor *Oral Hygiene*:—

Pursuant to your request for information concerning our booth at the Exposition, I wish to state that the significance of the mouth hygiene exhibit lies principally in this—that here, in one booth, all the forces which are working to raise the standard of dentistry, striving to increase its efficiency and seeking to educate the layman in the necessity of more dentistry have united in showing their accomplishments, their aims and their ideals.

This exhibit represents three great forces coöperating for the public good. The first of these—the manufacturers of the tools and equipment used in dentistry, display their most modern inventions.

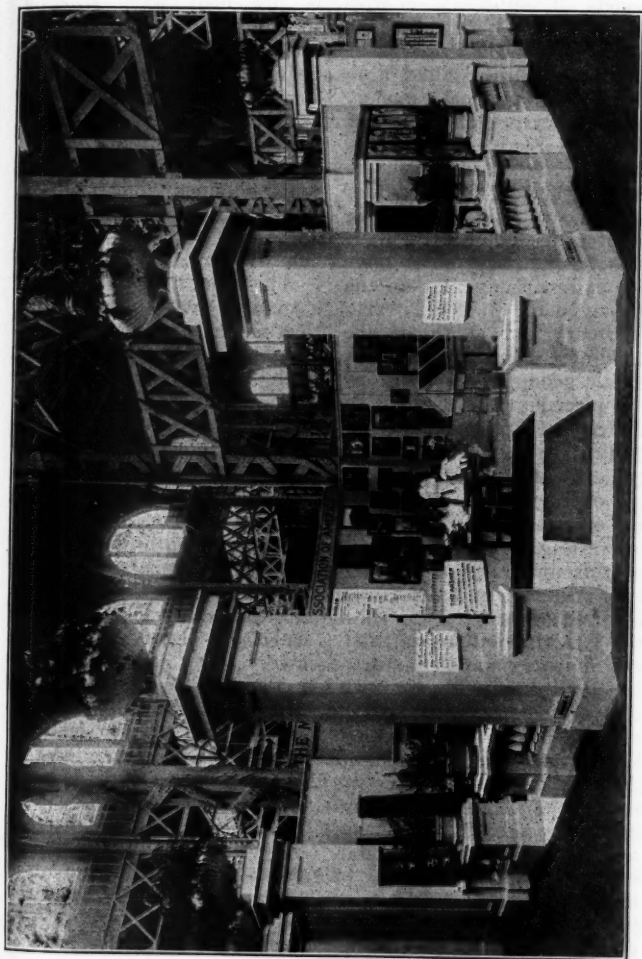
The second is the dental profession which contributes by models, pictures and slides, the invaluable lesson of its experience and practice.

The third, and not least, is civic and private philanthropy, which is not only picturing and displaying the results of its work, but is also giving an actual illustration of its methods by operating in the exhibit itself.

To study the mouth hygiene exhibited and the method used in accomplishing its purpose, an understanding of the different units of the display is necessary. Visitors are requested to view it in series, as follows: First, the historical and preventive unit, which consists of a many sided lights drum containing thirty-two stereopticon slides showing the teeth of primitive man, as contrasted with those of the modern. Below these slides and on the same table, are displayed the food used by the different races whom the slides depict, contrasting the coarse, rough ground foods and grains etc., which our ancestors used, and the finely divided cereals and soft foods of this day. The artificial preventive display consists of bottles showing the ingredients of tooth powders and pastes. Above this collection a large frame loaned by Dr. J. J. Sarrazin of New Orleans containing sixty slides brightly illuminated shows the proper positions for brushing the teeth and the different methods of properly caring for them.

In connection with the preventive display, and closely associated with it, the patho-





Mouth Hygiene Booth at the Panama Pacific Exposition

logical unit, collected by Dr. H. L. Wheeler of New York City, shows many colored models of children's mouths illustrative of the diseases which have been treated in the Bellevue and allied hospitals. Anatomical models and charts complete this unit.

The corrective unit comes next and shows by photographs and graphic slides what the various cities of the country are doing in their schools. Among these none are more prominent than the display made by the Forsyth Infirmary, which shows the buildings and equipment, which generous philanthropy has placed at the disposal of the city of Boston. A model of the Forsyth Infirmary, together with pictures showing its different departments in full operation make this most interesting. The remainder of this unit consists of sanitary office equipment, the purpose of which is to show the latest inventions in modern dentistry and to familiarize the laymen with the progress of dental surgery.

The visitor who has followed through this series of displays must, of necessity, realize the importance of giving the teeth proper care and appreciate the advisability of taking advantage of the most important feature of the exhibit in the mouth hygiene booth, namely, the opportunity of having a free examination of either of their own or their children's teeth. Nurses are in attendance giving free examinations to both

children and parents. A record is made of each examination and the person examined is presented with a copy, showing the condition of their teeth.

One of the staff of the Forsyth Infirmary is in attendance at all times, lecturing in regard to the institution showing the excellent results obtained and trying to instill in the auditors a desire to procure for their own community similar advantages.

The mouth hygiene exhibit occupies over 1,000 square feet on one of the most prominent corners of Avenue A and Fourth street in the Palace of Education. The surroundings are most inspiring—every field of welfare work is represented, the different exhibits—those of the nation, the city, the college and the philanthropy of every kind are working together with a wonderful unanimity towards educating the people to build a better and stronger race.

Before closing, I want to urge you personally to come to the Exposition. It is an inspiration. Never before has there been such a dream realized. To describe it in words is impossible. The only criticism heard is the pity that such a monument to the progress of the world should ever become only a memory.

With best wishes to you.

Very truly yours,

W. J. BURRIDGE, D.D.S.  
Chairman of Committee on  
Hygiene Exhibits.

## -:- EDITORIAL -:-

WM. W. BELCHER, D.D.S., EDITOR

186 Alexander Street, Rochester, N.Y.

**ORAL HYGIENE** does not publish Society Announcements, Obituaries, Personals or Book Reviews. This policy is made necessary by the limited size and wide circulation of the magazine. -:- -:-

### THE FORSYTH LOVING CUP

THE response to the suggestion of a loving cup for the donors of the Forsyth Infirmary has been a surprise. We are in receipt of many letters of approval and it would seem that when the matter is brought to the official notice of the National Dental Association and the Panama Pacific Dental Congress at their meetings in August, the approval of the project will be assured. It will materially help to have the delegates from your society instructed to favor the resolution when presented to the business meeting of these societies.

Dr. Stephen Palmer, President of The New York State Dental Society has instructed the delegates representing New York State to favorable action. At a special meeting of the Hartford, Conn., dental society, June 28, the sum of \$25 was voted for the proposed testimonial. Dr. George H. Wilson, Cleveland, Ohio, has forwarded \$2 to the editor as his personal contribution with an encouraging letter of approval. We will hold the money in trust and turn it over to the committee when appointed. While it is highly desirable to have every State, District and Local Dental Society represented, we hope there will be many individual contributions. It does not matter how small they are, so that we all get in line, and take part in the giving.

A committee to receive subscriptions should be appointed and also to purchase and present the cup with suitable ceremonies to Mr. Thomas A. Forsyth as the only surviving brother, who has done so much to make the institution what it is.

This magazine and its editor stand ready to do everything in its power for the success of this matter, but with no desire to do more than its part. We hope every dental publication in the land will coöperate and receive subscriptions, working all

together to make this Loving Cup a magnificent testimonial of our appreciation. In the building itself, the donors have erected their own monument. In presenting this testimonial we honor ourselves and, once placed in the donor's room of the Forsyth, it will be guarded and cherished as one of the jewels of the institution and there remain so long as the building endures. Let us all get together and make it worthy of our profession.

## THE FORSYTH INFIRMARY AND ITS FUTURE

EVERY dentist who has the privilege should visit the Forsyth Infirmary and see it in actual operation. If your plans are not arranged for the summer vacation, why not go to Boston and the sea shore? Plymouth to the south and Salem to the north with trolley trips galore, reaching to Portland, Maine, with a stop-off at any interesting point that strikes your fancy. The trip by automobile is one of the finest ever. Although we presented a number of pictures of the interior of the Forsyth Infirmary, two were missing and when you go to Boston, I want you to note both of them. One is the donor's room, with its family pictures, books, fireplace and grandfather's clock. It is here we must have that loving cup as a memorial of our appreciation of the men who founded this institution. Then I want you to see the library. I was attracted to the partly filled book cases and in talking with the director, Dr. DeW. Cross, he said, "We have all the books of recent publication, but when you have them all, it doesn't make a big showing." I asked him if he had bound volumes of the dental journals and he informed me that only two were so represented. I hate to mention it, but one of these is *Oral Hygiene*, also the *International Dental Journal* up to date, published in two languages, Spanish and Portuguese. As I am editor of both these publications, I do not want to tell you how they look all by their lonesome and only one other publication complete to keep them company. Why not send the Infirmary copies of old dental books, editions out of print or valuable for their illustrations? They will gladly receive such gifts and your name will be placed in each volume as the donor. These books will be taken care of for all time and thoroughly appreciated. Instead of your cherished volumes going to the auctioneer or the rag man after your passing away, why not send them to the Forsyth library and thus become a help and inspiration to the other fellow?

## THE DENTAL NURSE OR DENTAL HYGIENIST

**W**HETHER or not you believe in these things they are in our midst and it would seem that the sooner we accept the fact the better. The recently passed dental law of Connecticut, section twelve reads as follows: "Any registered or licensed dentist may employ women assistants, who shall be known as dental hygienists. Such dental hygienists may remove lime deposits, accretions and stains from exposed surfaces of the teeth and directly beneath the free margin of the gums, but shall not perform any other operations on the teeth or mouth, or any diseased tissues of the mouth. They may operate in the office of any registered or licensed dentist, on in any public or private institution, under the general supervision of a registered or licensed dentist. The dental commission may revoke the license of any registered or licensed dentist who shall permit any dental hygienist operating under his supervision to perform any operation other than that permitted under the provision of this section."

Dr. A. Fones, Bridgeport, Conn., has had three classes of dental hygienists, the last of some fifty members and the graduates of this school have organized a society, the Dental Hygienists of Connecticut, with a full board of officers. They are employed in the Bridgeport public schools and many private offices.

Massachusetts has recently passed a new law and incorporated in it is a recognition of the Dental Hygienist, "Any person of good, moral character and twenty years of age may, upon the payment of ten dollars which shall not be returned to him, be examined by said board in the subjects considered essential by it for dental hygienists, and if his examination is satisfactory, shall be registered as a dental hygienist and given a certificate allowing him to clean teeth under the direction of a registered dentist of his commonwealth, in public or private schools or institutions approved by the local board of health." The law in Massachusetts limits the field of the dental hygienist to "public or private schools or institutions approved by the local board of health." This is probably to appease the dentists who do not favor the bill in Massachusetts and is bound to cause trouble. Also the dental hygienists may be of either sex. In Connecticut, only the lady may be a dental hygienist. It is Dr. Fones' idea that if the work of the hygienist is confined to women there will be little if any violation of the law.

In Colorado they are training the "Dental Nurse" and the 1914-15 catalogue of the Colorado College of Dental Surgery announces such a course and presents the picture of a dozen women in attendance, each wearing a white apron and ready

for trouble. "The course of instruction embraces operative and prosthetic dentistry, essentials of dental medicine, dental nursing, emergency work, anaesthesia, analgesia, physical diagnosis, care of children, X-ray work, business practice, assisting at the chair, in the laboratory, with anaesthetics and in the surgical operating room. These subjects are given especially for dental assistants rather than from the operators standpoint." The term extends over eight months and tuition fee is fifty dollars. Certificates are issued to those who pass the examinations successfully.

In New York state I know of a number of dentists who are employing graduate lady medical nurses in their office for prophylactic work and they defy any dentist or dental law to prevent their so doing. A tuberculosis hospital two years ago installed a dental equipment and since that time have vainly tried to get a dentist to care for the teeth of its inmates at a fair salary, with no results. They have been dependent on the volunteer efforts of three busy dentists who have served at infrequent intervals. How long do you suppose these medical men will put up with this thing? They are willing to pay for the services of a dental interne but if they can't be supplied, will undoubtedly secure the services of a trained dental hygienist or a medical nurse to clean and scale the teeth of patients.

These are the facts and it would appear that whether you want or believe in the dental nurse or trained dental hygienist, she is here and is a condition and not a theory. We can now recognize the dental nurse and regulate, or ignore and regulate as best we can later.

## THE DAILY PRESS AND THE DENTAL MEETING

WE are in receipt of a communication from West Virginia, in which the local press is scored for its lack of courtesy in referring to a recent meeting of dentists as "tooth carpenters," and other supposed to be humorous allusions to the fact that a gathering of dentists has honored the city with its meeting. Most always this is the work of some Willie Boy reporter just out of school and with no intention of offense.

The editor of your paper may not be well informed as to the claims of dentistry, and all you have to do is to call on him in a gentlemanly way and present the matter to his notice, explaining that such articles are distasteful and unjust. Also that it has tended to lower his publication in the eyes of the visiting dentists who have been your guests. A number of years ago such happenings were frequent in our local press

and a committee of one, quietly visited the newspaper offices and was made most welcome and assured there would be no further cause of criticism and there never has been to this day.

Editors are only human and a few kind words and a reasonable cause of complaint stated in a gentlemanly manner without threat or bluster is much more effective than an indignant protest in the opposing paper, flaying the offender.

Many times the daily press extends to the dental society many courtesies and too often this is entirely ignored. Present a resolution instructing the secretary of your society to thank the editor for the free notices and the intelligent manner in which he has reported the meeting and you will find him your good friend.

## A DOLLAR A COPY FOR ORAL HYGIENE

DO you save your back numbers? A good scheme is to buy a twenty-five cent letter file, and on the inside cover, mark the subjects you are most interested in and wish to refer to. When the file is full you can have them bound. Beginning with the January number, every article appearing in the magazine has been original matter and not to be found elsewhere. Just to show you how valuable this publication is, I offer one dollar each for the following numbers sent to me in good condition.

January and February, 1911; January, March, August and October, 1912.

I will pay this price each for a dozen copies of the numbers specified.

We don't want to create any coldness with this man Ingersoll who claims to have made the dollar famous, but by careful economy we have seventy-two dollars saved and waiting for these six issues. Of course, if you value the magazines at a higher price and don't want to part with them, I don't want to rob you, so we will shake hands and let it go at that.

Send in the numbers wanted and I will forward the dollar; but seventy-two is the limit.

---

The first number of *The American Dentist*, published at Chicago, Ill.: "An Independent Organ of News, Opinion and Information Devoted to the Dental Profession," has been received. It is of sixteen pages, of three columns each and all filled with general information and news of interest to the dentist. It is cast more on newspaper lines than any other publication in the dental field, and we hope it will enjoy an abundant success. George Wallace Winslow, M.D., D.D.S., is the editor, and, judging by the first number, it is in good hands.



## NOTE AND COMMENT

In the July, 1864, issue of "Godey's Lady's Book" appear rules for the care of the teeth that are as up-to-date as though published yesterday. This oral hygiene movement is not so new after all.

---

It is announced that a \$20,000,000 hospital is to be erected jointly by Columbia University and the Presbyterian Hospital on the site of the old American League baseball grounds at 165th street and Broadway. This will be the greatest medical center in the world and will include a group of special hospitals and clinics, a school of medicine and medical research laboratories.

---

The program for the 1915 meeting of the New York State Dental Society is one of the best that has come to our notice. The cover is of special design, and while modest and chaste, it stands out like a sore thumb. To Dr. Edw. Link and his associates, of the program committee, is due the credit.

---

The general mobilization which followed the declaration of war called out most of the members of the teaching force of the Paris Dental School and Dispensary which was closed, and the publication of *L'Odontologie* was suspended. After a period of four months the journal resumes publication, with one number a month instead of two and reduced to one-half size. The printer, with almost his entire staff, is at the front, and after being closed for three months, the establishment is at work again with a new personnel. The staff of the Paris Dental School, its laboratories and clinics, are actively employed in taking care of the wounded soldiers and supplying them with artificial substitutes where necessary. This work is done by non-mobilized members of the teaching staff and a few former members of the teaching body.

---

As announced in these columns last month, Dr. S. H. Guilford, dean of the Philadelphia Dental College, will head a party of dentists who propose to spend three months at the American hospital at Neuilly, France. He will be accompanied by Dr. C. N. Russell, professor of oral surgery and Drs. D. M. Wass and Dudley Guilford, all connected with the teaching force of the dental college. The party sailed Saturday, June 19th.

The editor is in receipt of a cheery letter from Dr. S. H. Guilford, a portion of which reads, "My object in going is twofold; first of all humanitarian, of course. Second, to help show the public in general how important dental work and care are in reference to the general health; in this case, the soldiers. This is the first opportunity our profession has had in this direction in a war hospital. Think of that! Besides the three men I take with me, I am carrying a valuable lot of dental supplies, generously donated by nine different dealers. Isn't that fine?" Instead of a much-needed rest and spending a summer at his cottage on Skaneateles Lake, N. Y., Dr. Guilford considers it a privilege to take up this strenuous work. It is by such efforts that dentistry is to take its rightful place among the professions. We have been promised a full account of the trip for the benefit of our readers, and needless to say, it will be worth while. Every reader in our magazine will join us in wishing Dr. Guilford and his party a successful trip and safe return.

The sanitary clothes repair shop has it also. Listen to this screed taken from an advertisement: "Our shop is entirely in white; our men are clothed in white; our auto deliveries are white. For the convenience of our patrons we have a white reading and lounging room and white uniformed attendants will press your suit while you wait." This is in keeping with the colored lady, who was about to go into deep mourning on account of her husband's death. Her new outfit was proudly displayed on the bed. "Why Mammy," said her little niece, "Your underclothes are black, too." "Course dey is chile; when I mornes, I mornes all over."

The Halifax Insurance Committee, by a recent decision, makes dental treatment compulsory, preliminary to institutional treatment of all tubercular patients. The following rule of treatment will be enforced:

"Any insured person whom the tuberculosis officer certifies to be in need of dental treatment, and who would otherwise benefit from institutional treatment, shall be examined by a qualified dentist appointed by the Insurance Committee, and no such institutional treatment can be entered upon until the mouth of the patient has been put into proper condition."

In regard to supplying dentures to soldiers at the front, a statement suggesting malingering has several times been made, and has quite recently been repeated by Sir Thomas Oliver, who says: "One drawback to supplying artificial teeth is that if a man at the front is dissatisfied or has a grievance he may throw his dentures away, and, pleading inability to masticate food, he may, when he can ill be spared, have to be sent home." In this particular quotation it will be noticed that the case is stated hypothetically. The man may "throw his dentures away," says Sir Thomas Oliver and so far as we can recall other references to the matter have usually taken the form of mere suggestion or suspicion. Something much more substantial than suspicion is required to justify any contemplated steps towards withholding dentures from soldiers who need them badly. If clear evidence of this form of shirking exists it would be better to have positive statements from those who know the facts. Even then, should it amount to nothing more (as seems probable) than that the "losing" of dentures was "not unknown" a decent silence is preferable to the hawking about of crude humor at Tommy's expense.

—*Dental Record (Eng.) June.*





# HERE'S A NEW ONE



We want good clean humor for this page and are willing to pay for it. Send me the story that appeals to you as "funny" and if I can use it, you will receive a check on publication—Address EDITOR, 186 Alexander St., Rochester, N. Y.

The teacher in grammar placed two sentences on the blackboard for her pupils to correct. The sentences were: "The hen has three legs" and "Who done it?" "Henry," she said to one of the youngsters, "Go to the blackboard and tell me where the fault lies in those two sentences." Henry studied hard and then wrote: "The hen never done it. God done it."—I. T., Boston, Mass.

After the concert, little Tim approached the man with the big bass horn and in a lisping tongue said, "Mither when you play do you blow out or thuck back?"—W. B. F., Timberville, Virginia.

A Sunday school teacher was dwelling on the word "blessing" and all it meant or should mean. To bring it home to her pupils she asked the little son of a deacon in the church, what his father said when they first sat down to the table. The reply was startling: "Go easy on the butter, boys; it's forty cents a pound!"—M. C. S., Durand, Mich.

An officer inspecting camp during the mess hour, heard one of the men grumbling about the amount of sand and dirt in the food. "Did you enter the army to serve your country or to grumble?" he asked. The man stood up, saluted, and replied: "I enlisted to serve my country, sir, but not to eat it."—W. B. G., Waterbury, Conn.

A woman was finding fault with the church services. The seats were hard; the singing not good and the preaching poor. Her little girl who accompanied her, said: "Well, ma, what can you expect for a penny, anyway?"—F. P. D., Enid, Oklahoma.

A man was brought up at police court charged with burglary. The new officer in charge of the beat was questioned as to whether or not he had noticed any suspicious characters about the neighborhood.

"Sure, your Honor, and this is the man, an' I asked him phwat he was doin' there at that time o' night. Says he, 'I have no business here just now, but I expect to open a jewelry store in the vicinity later on.' At that I says, 'I wish you success, sor.'"

"Yes," said the magistrate, "He did open a jewelry store in that vicinity and stole seventeen watches." Policeman (after a pause): "Begorra, yer Honor, the man may have been a thafe, but he was no loier."—E. O. W., Elgin, Oregon.

The manager of Lee S. Smith & Son Company having occasion to discharge an Irishman working in the shipping department, notified him by letter that his services would no longer be required. On going through the department a few days later, the man was noticed in his usual place. "Didn't you get a letter from me firing you?" asked the manager. "Oi did and on the inside it said I was foired and on the outside it said return in five days to Lee S. Smith & Son Company."—C. J. M., Detroit, Mich.

"What's the matter, little boy?" asked a kind-hearted woman, of a boy who sat on the edge of the sidewalk, crying as though his heart would break. "Ma's gone an' drowned all the kittens," he sobbed. "What a pity! I'm awfully sorry." "An's she promised, boo-hoo, 'at I c'u'd do it."—D. P., Bradford, Pa.